

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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R 111515Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7400

INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV MORG PINT GR

SUBJECT: PARLIAMENTARY PITFALLS FOR GOG

1. SUMMARY. A BROUHAHA IN PARLIAMENT INVOLVING WHICH CASHIERED OFFICERS (1967-1974) SHOULD BE REINSTATED IN ARMED SERVICES REFLECTS TECHNICAL PROBLEMS IN FINDING EQUITABLE PERSONNEL POLICY TO COVER DIVERGENT CATEGORIES OF OUSTED OFFICERS AND SUGGESTS GOG AND ITS PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORTERS ARE NOT ALWAYS IN STEP. END SUMMARY.

2. ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SIX (136) NEW DEMOCRACY (ND) DEPUTIES SPONSORED DRAFT BILL FEB 6 CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT OF ALL OFFICERS DISMISSED BY JUNTA AND RESTORATION OF "DEMOCRATIC ORDER" IN ARMED FORCES. GOG OBJECTED SHARPLY TO THE BILL, NOTING ITS SPONSORS HAD NOT CONSULTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. SUBSEQUENTLY ALMOST ALL ND DEPUTIES WITHDRAW THEIR SPONSORSHIP AND DRAFT IS PRESUMED DEAD.

3. GOG AND OTHER CRITICS OF BILL OBJECTED TO ITS OMNIBUS LANGUAGE WHICH FAILED TO DRAW DISTINCTIONS AMONG VARIOUS GROUPS OF OFFICERS WHO WERE DISMISSED OVER PAST SEVEN YEARS: VIZ APRIL 1967 COUP, DEC 1967 ATTEMPTED COUNTER-  
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COUP, MAY 1973 ABORTIVE NAVY MUTINY, NOV 1973 POLYTECHNION

RIOTS, AND JULY 1974 RETURN TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT--EVENTS WHICH OCCASIONED SIGNIFICANT MILITARY PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS. GOG ALSO VIEWED BILL AS REDUNDANT IN THAT MILITARY REVIEW COMMITTEES ARE WELL ADVANCED IN EVALUATING DOSSIERS OF MANY, BUT NOT ALL, EX-OFFICERS, AND SINCE SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF FORMER NAVY AND ARMY OFFICERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN REINSTATED. RELATIVELY FEW AIR FORCE OFFICERS WERE DISMISSED FOR POLITICAL REASONS DURING JUNTA. IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT MINISTRY DEFENSE DOES NOT WELCOME ANY LEGISLATION WHICH WILL OBLIGE IT TO REINSTATE OFFICERS REGARDLESS OF PRESENT PERSONNEL NEEDS. GOG ALSO RESENTED BILL'S INFERENCE THAT ARMED FORCES ARE NOT YET FULLY COMMITTED TO DEMOCRACY.

4. KEY DRAFTERS AND ONLY REMAINING SPONSORS OF BILL ARE ND DEPUTIES IPPOCRATIS SAVVOURAS AND ANGELOS PNEVMATIKOS, BOTH ACTIVE ROYALISTS. APPARENTLY UPON INSTIGATION OF SOME FORMER ROYALIST ARMY OFFICERS WHO FEAR THEY WILL NOT GET FAIR REVIEW--COMMITTEES ALLEGEDLY ARE STACKED WITH ANTI-MONARCHIST OFFICERS--THEY STAMPEDED MORE THAN HALF OF ND PARLIAMENTARY GROUP INTO PROPOSAL WHICH GOG FOUND POLITICALLY EMBARRASSING. OPPOSITION PRESS SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLOITED STORY AS PROOF ROYALIST SPLIT WITHIN ND RANKS, OVERLOOKING QUESTION OF SEEMINGLY FAULTY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CARAMANLIS AND HIS ND DEPUTIES. KUBISCH

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## Message Attributes

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